



# Bradwell News



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Issue 93

March 2010

## EVENTS

**Wed 10 Mar:** Rebellion Knoll W.I. - Methodist Hall, 7:30pm:

"Vets in Practice" - Ian and Kristin Kern-Lowe

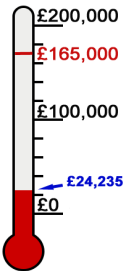
**Tue 16 Mar:** Bradwell Historical Society - Methodist Hall, 8pm:

"The Roman Invasion of Britain" - Fred Coupland

**Fri 26 Mar:** FOBS Easter Bingo - Shoulder of Mutton, 8pm

## BRADWELL ST BARNABAS PCC

The fund stands at £23,235.14. Lent Lunches started on Mon 22nd Feb. from 12 noon to 2pm in the church and will continue each Monday until the end of March. All proceeds to the Church Fabric Fund so please continue to give your support - all are most welcome to attend. It's not too late to join the St Barnabas Church Lottery - £1 per week - please see Margaret Morley at High Peak Heating for a form.



## BRADWELL'S MISSING RAILWAY

*Chris Furness has contributed this interesting piece which describes how close Bradda came to having a railway. The text is Copyright of Chris Furness.*

In the late nineteenth century, as the British railway construction boom was coming to an end, the chances of Bradwell getting a convenient connection to the national railway system appeared to have vanished. The Midland Railway Company had looked closely at the Hope Valley, as a possible link route between Dore and Chinley, and concluded that the enormous cost of tunnelling could never be justified. The proposers of a Chesterfield Canal extension to Manchester along a similar route, 100 years earlier, had come to the same conclusion. It seemed that, for Bradwell, access to a main line would never be nearer than Millers Dale.

However, a local group of wealthy landed gentry were determined to put the Hope Valley on the railway map and they decided that if the Midland would not promote a Railway Act then they would do it themselves. They were led by Robert Howe Ashton of Losehill Hall, Castleton. Their Dore and Chinley Railway Act was approved in 1893 with a 5 year allowance for the raising of capital and access agreements. Unfortunately the promoters were unable to raise sufficient money within the time limit and it seemed the project would fail until, at the last

minute, the Midland Railway directors had a change of heart and agreed to take over the project.

Encouraged by this rescue and the profits they would make from land sales to the Midland, the group came up with another scheme. This time it was for a railway from Castleton running below the southern escarpment to Bradwell and thence to a connection with the new Midland Railway station at Hope. It would be a standard gauge light railway with offices, workshops and sidings situated alongside a station at Bradwell.

The Midland had acquired sufficient land near the Hope station site to facilitate the new railway and, in 1903, they changed the station's name from 'Hope for Castleton' to 'Hope for Castleton and Bradwell' in anticipation of the opening of the new Bradwell line.

Plans and sections and a 'Book of Reference' were published in November 1903 and exhibited at the home of Bradwell Parish Clerk, Zachariah Walker. The line was to have passed under the Aston Lane bridge before curving south over the A615 and the river Noe, east of Brough. It would then run alongside Bradwell Brook to Grey Ditch where it would turn west and make a level crossing of Main Road just north of the Gore Lane junction. Bradwell station was planned to be on the west side of this crossing. The line would then proceed alongside what is now the path to Lafarge Cement Works and continue via Nunlow and Pindale to a station at Castleton. The prospectus mentioned the government's stated intention of constructing a large army barracks near Castleton. However, despite two time extensions, the required capital was never raised. The Midland declined to take over the scheme and enthusiasm for the railway was eventually eclipsed by the Great War.

It's interesting to speculate if it might have survived to the present time. Certainly Earle's Cement (now Lafarge) would have used it, rather than construct their present line, and the section from Nunlow to Hope Station would now be busy with heavy freight traffic. Castleton, of course, would have been an ideal terminus for a heritage railway but the question whether it could have operated successfully in conjunction with a busy freight line might be difficult to answer. Chris Furness

## STOP PRESS

It has just come to our attention that the three youngsters involved in the snow clearing at Wortley Court (see back page of this edition) were Fynn Hall, Sam Charles and Siko.



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**PARISH COUNCIL NOTES**

**Newburgh** - The Parish Clerk (Steve Lawless), Councillors Downing, Davies and I attended a meeting with Peak Park Heads of Planning (Bob Bryant and John Keeley) at Aldern House on 3rd February. The purpose of the meeting was to receive a progress update and to express the Council's continuing concerns about the scale of the proposed development. We heard that a revised application is to be submitted, although that is still some weeks away - and is unlikely to be heard by the Planning Committee before April (I have since been told that June or July are more likely). We were assured that before that stage, Peak Park will arrange an all-day drop-in presentation of the revised plans in Bradwell and will take note of residents' comments. If there are any fundamental changes, a new application will be necessary. Apparently the Environment Agency are concerned about the flood risk to about 12 proposed dwellings and these may have to be removed from the plan. We were concerned to hear that Peak Park have still not received responses from two of the main consultees - Derbyshire Dales and the Primary Care Trust. Bradwell is one of eight villages listed by Peak Park, in their new strategic plan, as suitable for new developments. Hathersage, for example, is not listed - even though it has an identified need for 49 new affordable homes. Since Hathersage is considered to be within the Bradwell vicinity, Peak Park will no doubt be including those figures as local needs when considering this application. Peak Park have told Newburgh that they would like about 84 (60%) of the new dwellings to be affordable (with local occupancy restrictions) as opposed to the currently proposed 27 (20%). We understand that at least two owners of properties affected by the plan have indicated that they do not intend to comply with it - and we were assured that this would be taken into account by the Planning Committee.

**Well-being Powers** - These powers were granted to senior councils in 2000 and have now been extended to qualifying parish councils. They enable parish councils to be involved in schemes which would previously have been beyond their scope. These schemes must be for the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the parish and the PC could borrow or lend funds to facilitate such schemes. Bradwell PC currently has all the qualifications required bar one - that 80% of its members should attend a training course on the subject - so at our last meeting it was agreed to arrange one, in the village, in May.  
Chris Furness

**THE CULTURAL HERITAGE OF BRADWELL**

*This month we conclude our serialisation of Brian Gillham's review of the cultural history of our village:*

In the 1960s the housing stock of Bradwell rose by 70 and this number included old people's accommodation, built at Springhead. Then, in the 1970's another 80 houses were added,

including building for the elderly in Wortley Court. In later decades more building had taken place, including significant building for the elderly in Michlow Close (these figures relate to builds and don't take into account demolitions that have preceded builds). In these decades (and continuing) there have been a number of barn conversions and shops being changed into houses. As a result of these changes the housing stock of Bradwell was 545 in 1971 (population 1,548) and 625 in 1981 (population 1,462). By 2001 the population of Bradwell stood at 1,425 and in 2009 the Bradwell News (committed to delivering to every household in the village) had 715 houses on its list. (These included some 25 holiday cottages and an unknown number of houses being second homes). From this it can be seen that for much of Bradwell's history since the nineteenth century there has been an intimate relationship between population, jobs and houses. When the relationship hasn't been as tight the biggest concern has been ageing of the population and a natural desire to provide houses for the elderly. The other conclusion is that between 1851 and 2009 the total number of houses in Bradwell increased from 301 to 715, an increase of 237%, or 25 houses per decade, with a maximum of 80 in the heady decade of the 1970s.

Will the proposal of Newburgh Engineering, as it relates to house building, be consonant with the history of Bradwell? The first thing that should be said is the numbers are not easy to come by from the application lodged by Newburgh Engineering. This is because the application was lodged and then modified and it is very difficult to know to what extent the original 'master plan' has been changed by the modifications. Nevertheless, it seems that the proposal is to build twenty three (3) bedroom houses, sixteen (4) bedroom houses, sixteen (5) bedroom houses and two (6) bedroom houses, a total of 57 houses. The rest of the proposed housing-related build is of apartments and of these 54 will be of 1 bedroom and 39 of 2 bedrooms. This seems to total some 150 buildings for housing, with a total of 357 bedrooms. If one makes a modest assumption of one person per bedroom this implies a population increase of 357 in the next decade, or about 25% of the present population - about the same as the whole increase in population since 1901. (Historically the occupation of houses in Bradwell has been one person per room/bedroom). When the Newburgh master plan is examined it seems that it is in the apartments that the historical concerns of Bradwell are best reflected. There is provision for homes for the elderly and there is a focus on the provision of affordable homes. Affordable homes are key to the future of a *Working Village* because if the young of Bradwell are going to be able to live and work in their village they will need homes they can afford to buy. The proposal for houses and particularly the top end houses with 4, 5 and 6 bedrooms seems not to consider from where the jobs would come for

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occupants of these large houses, or the chaos of perhaps one third of that number leaving the village to work elsewhere, all leaving at the same time each morning. In conclusion, it seems clear that the Bradwell site of Newburgh Engineering should be developed to the advantage of and in keeping with the history of the village. This plan seems to pay sufficient attention to neither. To put the Newburgh Engineering proposal in context, in a document published in June 2009 and entitled Peak Sub Region Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment, the planned housing builds for the period 6 to 15 years from the date of the report signals the possibility of building 265 houses in the whole of the Peak District National Park. Therefore the Newburgh Engineering application would lead to the building in Bradwell of about 57% of all the houses to be built in the Park. In any view this must be a distortion.

### Table Showing the Historical Changes in the Population and Number of Houses in Bradwell and how these reflected the needs of the Village

Date	Pop	Houses	Increase over previous	Providing for in the previous decade
1801	955			
1851	1334	305		Lead miners, quarry men
1881	1019	307*	2	Rail workers, quarry men, cotton workers
1891	837	297**	-10	
1901	1033	352	55	
1911	1325	373	21	Builders of the Derwent Valley dams, cotton workers
1921	1325	397	26	
1931	1313	397	0	Hallgate View (1939)
1951	1481	459	62***	'Homes fit for heroes' inc Elliott Avenue, Hallgate View
1961	1368	475	15	Homes for the elderly Wortley Court, Springfield
1971	1550	545	80	Newburgh workers: Springfield Close build
1981	1462	625	80	Homes for the elderly Wortley Court second phase
1991	1426	-	-	Homes for the elderly Michlow Drive
2001	1423	-	-	Homes Michlow Close
2009		715	90****	

\* 55 unoccupied, \*\* 50 Unoccupied, \*\*\* Two decades (no 1941 census), \*\*\*\* Builds since 1981.

### AN APPEAL TO DOG OWNERS

The Bradwell News receives a large number of requests from people in the village related to dog fouling. We publish this latest one because of the severity of the problem in the particular area mentioned. Please **control your dog**, or at the very least be kind enough to clean up after them.

Please would dog-owners not allow their dogs to foul footpaths and roads in the village. In particular on "The Hills", especially the footpath running alongside Hazelbadge. Hundreds of spring bulbs are planted there and dogs are continually fouling them.

There is the facility of a dog-bin at the end of the path, so please do use it. The increasing problem is a health hazard to children, who frequently use the path.

Come on dog-owners, please accept your responsibilities.

Thank you.

(Name and Address supplied)

### LOTTERY

Have you joined the Church Roof Lottery yet.? If you don't join you will not have the chance to WIN. Weekly prize draw **£50, and £1,000** on the last draw. The first draw will be on Friday 26th March. Collect a form from the Hardware Shop.

### TO THE ALTAR - BY SLED



The sudden snowfall on Saturday 20th was certainly a surprise for Vanessa Horstead's daughter Sam, who was due to be married in Rowsley the following day. To avoid breaking any bones at such a delicate time her sister Jo

pulled her down the hill on a sled, before being a bridesmaid at the wedding - Bradda ingenuity at its best. Grateful thanks from the family to Reg Davies, who ferried cases, dresses and people to the venue in his 4x4, Linda Cutter for taking the wedding photos and Chris Furness for this one.

### COMMUNITY FORUMS

Derbyshire Dales District Council's next round of Area Community Forums will be held in March. Present will be District Council Members and officers, representatives from Derbyshire County Council, Derbyshire Constabulary, the Peak District National Park Authority and Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service. There will be the usual Question Time session allowing members of the public to raise matters of concern.

- Northern Forum - Mon 8 Mar, 7 pm - Agricultural Business Centre, Bakewell
- Central Forum - Mon 15 Mar, 7 pm - Town Hall, Matlock
- Southern Forum - Mon 22 Mar, 7 pm - St Oswald's Church Hall, Ashbourne



### BRADDA DADS



We would like to thank Richard Chester for very kindly giving his precious time and expertise to audit our accounts this year.

This year's Wolf's Pit fell race will take place on March 14th. The start of the race will be at 11.00am, from the same spot as last year - off Townfield Lane, Shatton. For more details visit: [www.wolfspitfellrace.org.uk](http://www.wolfspitfellrace.org.uk). We would like to thank the residents of Shatton and the land owners for their permission to allow this race to take place.



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## RONALD HECTOR HARTLEBURY

Mr Ronald Hartlebury died in Calow Hospital on 9th January, 2010 aged 92 years. He was born in London and, on leaving school, worked as a cinema projectionist before joining the RAF. He served as a bomb aimer on Lancaster Bombers, based most the time in Aden. On leaving the RAF he worked at Glebe Mine in Eyam, then the Water Board, and finally at Blue Circle Cement Works. Ronald married Jean Wilson, whom he met when billeted at Froggatt during the war, and they lived at Eyam, Bradwell, Yorkshire Bridge and Thornhill, before returning to Bradwell. He enjoyed music and reading, was at one time in the Civil Defence, and was a part-time projectionist at Bamford "Cinema". For a number of years he was Father Christmas for the Teddy Bears Club. He leaves a daughter Diane, sons David and Michael, grandchildren and great grandchildren. His wife Jean, son John and daughter Jackie pre-deceased him. The funeral service took place at Bamford Parish Church on 28th January, followed by cremation at Hutcliffe Wood.

\*\*\*\*\*

## RONALD HENRY WHARTON

Mr Ronald Wharton passed away on 25th January in the Macmillan Palliative Care Unit at the Northern General Hospital, aged 87 years. Born in Bradwell, the son of Jack and Maud Wharton, he attended the Church of England school before starting work at the L.M.S. railway station at Hope. During the war he served six years in the Royal Navy on Minesweepers, with four years based in Alexandria. On leaving the navy he worked in Sheffield, firstly at "Firmachrome" and then at Cole Brothers, where he remained until retiring. Ronald married Pearl Bates and they lived at Hathersage before moving to Bamford in 1993. He enjoyed gardening, photography and bowls and, whilst in the Navy, boxing. He leaves a daughter Christine, grand-daughter Sally, great grand-daughter Rowan, sisters Dorothy, Hilda and Lily and brother Brian. His wife Pearl, and brothers Jack and Frank pre-deceased him. The funeral, followed by burial took place at Bamford Parish Church on 5th February.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MARGARET FALLOW

Mrs Margaret Fallow died on 26th January in the Northern General Hospital aged 79 years. Born at Byker, Newcastle, she was the only daughter of Thomas and Ann Horn. After

leaving school she worked in the offices of George Angus Limited, eventually as a secretary. She remained working there until marrying George Fallow. They first lived in Newcastle, then in Chesterfield and Northwood in London, before coming to Bradwell thirty years ago. Margaret leaves her husband George, son Kelvin, daughter-in-law Jackie and grand-daughter Anais. Her three brothers pre-deceased her. A funeral service followed by cremation took place at Hutcliffe Wood on 9th February.

## THANKS

On behalf of the residents of Wortley Court, I would like to thank the three lads who came round on Sunday 21st Feb and cleared all the snow from the paths around the bungalows. These people are a credit to Bradwell, and for an age group who usually get bad press they acted unprompted and worked very hard. Its a pleasure to live in a community like Bradwell where people look out for other folk. WELL DONE LADS! Keith Brett

*A request that we publish a letter of thanks was also received from June Poke, and the Bradwell News would like to add our recognition for this much appreciated gesture of public service.*

## SATURDAY WASTE SKIP DATES

27th March

## FOBS

An order form for plants and bulbs will be posted through your door or can be collected from the Post Office. Please support us in this annual initiative. All proceeds will go towards funds for both schools. Many thanks for your support.

## SEND US YOUR NEWS

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Please send news by e-mail to: [bradwellnews@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:bradwellnews@yahoo.co.uk) or [paul@paulandliz.org](mailto:paul@paulandliz.org). Or call Paul (623941), Vanessa (623053) or Carol (621425). You can also leave hand written copy at the Post Office.

**Deadline For Next Issue: 18th March**

**Next Issue Out: 1st April**

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